

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1 1. A computer system, comprising:
2 a processor;
3 a communication port through which the computer can communicate with a remote
4 network;
5 an input device coupled to said processor; and
6 a location module coupled to said processor;
7 wherein said processor receives a signal from the location module to determine the location
8 of the computer relative to a plurality of pre-programmed location areas and,
9 invokes an operating mode for said computer based on the location area in which
10 the computer is located.

1 2. The computer system of claim 1 wherein said location module includes using a
2 geosynchronous positioning system receiver.

1 3. The computer system of claim 1 wherein said location module includes using a low earth
2 orbit satellite receiver.

1 4. The computer system of claim 1 wherein said location module includes using a cellular
2 telephone transceiver.

1 5. The computer system of claim 1 wherein said operating mode includes precluding access to
2 the remote network.

1 6. The computer system of claim 1 wherein said operating mode includes permitting access to
2 the remote network, but with limited access privileges.

1 7. The computer system of claim 1 wherein said operating mode includes permitting access to
2 the remote network, but the computer cannot run at least one application running on said remote
3 network.

1 8. The computer system of claim 1 wherein said operating mode includes permitting access to
2 the remote network, but the computer cannot access at least one data set stored on said remote
3 network.

1 9. The computer system of claim 1 wherein each of said plurality of location areas has an
2 associated operating mode and at least two of said operating modes differs.

1 10. The computer system of claim 1 wherein said location areas includes a first location area
2 and a second location, and said first location area has a first operating mode and said second
3 location area has a second a operating mode, said first operating permits full access to a remote
4 network and said second operating mode permits only limited access to said remote network.

1 11. The computer system of claim 1 wherein said location areas includes six location areas
2 each having its own operating mode.

1 12. The computer system of claim 1 wherein said operating mode includes restrictions on the
2 operation of the computer system itself.

1 13. A method of providing security for a computer, comprising:

2 (a) determining the location of the computer;

3 (b) comparing the location determined in (a) against a plurality of location areas;

4 (c) determining in which location area the computer is located; and

5 (d) invoking an operating mode preset for the location area determined in (c).

1 14. The method of claim 13 wherein (a) includes using a geosynchronous positioning system
2 receiver.

1 15. The method of claim 13 wherein (a) includes using a low earth orbit satellite receiver.

1 16. The method of claim 13 wherein (a) includes using a cellular telephone transceiver.

1 17. The method of claim 13 wherein said operating mode includes precluding access to a
2 remote network.

1 18. The method of claim 13 wherein said operating mode includes permitting access to a
2 remote network, but with limited access privileges.

1 19. The method of claim 13 wherein said operating mode includes permitting access to a
2 remote network, but the computer cannot run at least one application running on said remote
3 network.

1 20. The method of claim 13 wherein said operating mode includes permitting access to a
2 remote network, but the computer cannot access at least one data set stored on said remote
3 network.

1 21. The method of claim 13 wherein each of said plurality of location areas has an associated
2 operating mode and at least two of said operating modes differs.

1 22. The method of claim 13 wherein said location areas includes a first location area and a
2 second location, and said first location area has a first operatingmode and said second location area
3 has a second operating mode, said first operating mode permits full access to a remote network and
4 said second operatingmode permits only limited access to said remote network.

1 23. The method of claim 13 wherein said location areas includes six location areas each having
2 its own operating mode.

1 24. The method of claim 13 wherein said operating mode restricts operation of the computer.